(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The project pertaining to "Development of Port at Gangavaram near Visakhapatnam by M/s Gangavaram Port Limited" was accorded clearance under the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 on 11.3.2005 subject to environmental safeguards and conditions.

**Demarcation of vulnerability line along the coastal areas**

2954. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1880 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th December, 2005 and state:

(a) the details of the steps initiated by Government for demarcation of the vulnerability line along the coastal areas; and

(b) the manner in which the coasts of Mumbai and Navi Mumbai are proposed to be protected by the steps initiated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has assigned Survey of India, Dehradun, Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, Centre for Earth Science Studies, Trivendrum and Department of Ocean Development, New Delhi for demarcation of vulnerability line as recommended in the Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee Report constituted by the Ministry for reviewing the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991.

(b) As per the recommendations of the above report, coastal areas of Mumbai and Navi Mumbai would be managed through Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans prepared taking into account the vulnerability line. For the protection of life and property in coastal areas from natural hazards, the above Report has suggested hard and soft engineering methods including development of bioshields. This Ministry has initiated steps for implementing the recommendations of the Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee Report.

**Revival of coastline**

2955. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's coastline is set for revival after being battered by the Tsunami;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have asked for Planning Commission to go ahead for seeking World Bank's assistance of Rs. 500 crores to save India's 7517 km. coastline;

(d) whether Swaminathan Committee set up by the Government had warned Government about degradation of coasts in 11 States from sea erosion and marine pollution; and

(e) the details of action Government have taken on the recommendations of the panel of Swaminathan Committee to contain erosion and marine Pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the information received from various scientific institutions who are involved in the study relating to impacts of tsunami, the mangroves, beaches, corals, groundwater in the tsunami affected area are in the process of revival, but would have different time scale for their reformation/revival.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee Report on Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 has identified several coastal and marine issues including erosion of the coastline and marine pollution as areas of concern.

(e) Based on the recommendations of the Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee the Ministry has initiated steps for demarcating Vulnerability Line all along the coastal stretches of the country. The vulnerability line shall be demarcated taking into account flooding due to waves, tides, sea level rise and erosion/accretion.

With regard to control of pollution in coastal and marine waters, this Ministry has assigned The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), to prepare a National Action Plan for preventing pollution of coastal waters from land based activities.

**Banning of drugs to save vultures**

2956. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of three common vultures species has dropped by 95 per cent in last 10 years;